GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5112
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2007
RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE
Mcleod Smt. Ingrid

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the progress achieved in the growth of rural infrastructure under the Bharat Nirman during 2006-07;

(b) whether there has been any major hurdle which has adversely affected the growth; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/proposed to be taken to address the same?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL)

(a) The details of progress achieved in the growth of rural infrastructure under the six components of Bharat Nirman during 2006-07 are as under:-

1. Irrigation: Upto September, 2006, about 550.20 thousand ha. of irrigation potentials were reported to have been created for which an amount of Rs.2301.97 crore was released.

2. Rural Electrification: 28706 villages were electrified providing free electricity connection to 655773 BPL families. An amount of Rs. 3342.90 crore was released.

3. Telephone Connectivity: Till Feb., 2007, 17019 villages were provided with Telephone Connectivity for which an amount of Rs.35.66 crore is reported to have been released.

4. Rural Roads: 6775 habitations were connected during the year 2006-07 through construction of 21422.85 kms length of new roads and upgradation of 46129.9 kms of rural roads. An amount of Rs.6273.61 crore was released to the States.

5. Rural Housing: 14.75 lakh houses are reported to have been constructed during the year for which an amount of Rs.2907.53 crore was released as Central share of allocation.

6. Drinking Water Supply: During the year 2006-07, 81945 Habitations were covered under Safe Drinking Water Supply which includes Not Covered and Partially Covered Habitations of Uncovered and Slipped Back Habitations besides, Quality Affected Habitations. For this purpose, an amount of Rs.4543.65 crore was released.

(b) & (c): In implementation of components of Bharat Nirman like Rural Roads, some constraints such as inadequate institutional capacity, inadequate contracting capacity and delay in obtaining possession of land and forest clearance etc. are faced. In order to accelerate the pace of implementation of the programme, the matter has been taken up with the States to augment their institutional capacity and contracting capacity as well.